

### REMARKS

The above amendments and following remarks are submitted in response to the Official Action of the Examiner mailed November 29, 2004. Having addressed all objections and grounds of rejection, claims 1-11, 13-23, and 25, being all the pending claims, are now deemed in condition for allowance. Entry of these amendments and reconsideration to that end is respectfully requested.

The Examiner has rejected claims 16-20, 22, and 24 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. In response thereto, these claims have been amended above.

Claims 4-5, 8, 13-14, and 25 have been found allowable over the prior art of record. In accordance with the suggestion of the Examiner, claims 4, 8, 13-14, and 25 have been amended to render them independent claims having all of the limitations from the claims from which they had previously depended. Therefore, claims 4-5, 8, 13-14, and 25 are now deemed allowed.

Claims 9-10 and 15 depend from allowed claims. Therefore, claims 9-10 and 15 are allowable as a matter of law.

Claims 16-20 have apparently been found free of the prior art. Therefore, it is assumed that claims 16-20 are allowable.

Claims 1-3, 6-7, 11-12, and 21-24 remain rejected under U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,313,614, issued to Goettelmann et al (hereinafter referred to as

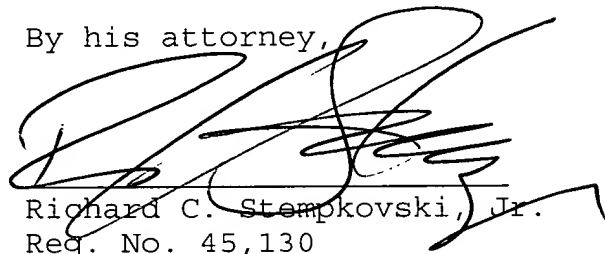
"Goettelmann"). In response thereto, independent claims 1, 6, 11, and 21 have been amended. Furthermore, claims 12 and 24 have been canceled.

Having thus responded to each objection and ground of rejection, Applicants respectfully request entry of this amendment and allowance of claims 1-11, 13-23, and 25, being the only pending claims.

Respectfully submitted,

John J. Burns

By his attorney,



Richard C. Stempkowski, Jr.  
Reg. No. 45,130  
Suite 401

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Broadway Place East  
3433 Broadway Street N.E.  
Minneapolis, Minnesota  
55413